Mr: A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peiskhar):* ഒരു വിരോധവുമില്ല. It is not for us to say how the contract is to be performed.

മിസ്സർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: എന്നാൽ ചോദ്യത്തിനുള്ള മറുപടി ഇംഗ്ലീഷിൽ തരാമായിരുന്നില്ലേ ?

Mr: A: Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar).* I thought that the Hon'ble Member will understand if I answered in Malayalam. I have no objection to give the answer in Malayalam if the President orders and if the House thinks that I should reply in Malayalam, I have no objection.

Mr. President: For my own part I should prefer answers to be given in English.

മിസ്സർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: അങ്ങരാത്തെ സിസ്റ്റത്തിൽനിന്നു വെള്ളം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു നീറ്റ്വാരം നെല്ലായിട്ടുവേണമെന്നുള്ളതു് ഉറപ്പിക്കയായിട്ടു പിരിക്കാമെന്നു നിശ്ചയംചെയ്യുവാൻ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു വിരോധമുണ്ടോ ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* That is also exactly what I said. One portion of the contract is that it will be paid in kind. The following may be the basis of the contract. You are going to cultivate this land. For getting it cultivated after getting the use of the water I am going to give you a portion of what I get. That must have been the basis. A portion of the paddy grown, in pursuance of the old contract, should be paid. Except by legislation, a change cannot be effected.

മിസ്സർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു പിരിക്കുന്ന തോതുപ്രകാരമേ പിരിക്കുവാൻ പാടുള്ളുവെന്നു നിർബ്ബന്ധിക്കുവാൻ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനവകാശമില്ലേ ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It is exactly what I said. Except by legislation nothing of the sort can be done.

മിസ്സർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: അതിലേക്കു് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു ദയവായി ഒരു ലജിസ്ലേഷൻ കൊണ്ടുവരുമോ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* That is a matter for investigation.

PRICE OF COCOANUT OIL—CONTROLLING OF

305. Mr. A: Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) what was the pre-war price of the cocoanuts in Chittur; what now;

(*b*) what was the price of one Edangazhi of cocoanut oil pre-war and what now;

(*c*) why have the Government not controlled the price of cocoanut oil, necessaries of life?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):*

(*a*) *Pre-war price.*—Between Rs. 4 and Rs. 4—8—0 per hundred
Present price.—Rs. 13 per hundred

(*b*) About Rs. 0—6—0 per edangazhi
About Re. 1—6—0 per edangazhi

(*c*) Compared to rise in price of home-grown paddy and other articles the increase in the above price is not phenominal or oppressive.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Do the Government now pay three times the pre-war price?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Rs. 1—6—0. It was only about 5 annas or so before.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Will not the Government be pleased to do something for the Chittur people?

Mr. President: That is a suggestion which will be considered.

VILLAGE FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEES

306. Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur):* Will Government be pleased to state.

(*a*) whether the Village Food Advisory Committees have Presidents;

(*b*) whether there is provision for the appointment or election of Presidents for such Committees;

(*c*) who is to convene the meetings of such Committees;

(*d*) whether the rules for the working of such committees authorise the committees to visit the Fair Price Shops and retail shops;

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(e) if so, whether such visits are to be made by individual members of the Committee or by the Committee as a body?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*):

(a) Yes.

(b) Till recently the Committees were electing their own Presidents who were mostly the Presidents of the respective Panchayats. According to a recent order the Presidents are to be nominated by Government.

(c) Ordinarly the Panchayat Presidents were convening the meetings. Now the Field Officers convene the meetings in the rural areas within their respective jurisdictions.

(d) Yes.

(e) The members of the Committee can visit the shops either individually or in a body.

Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon (*Women-Ernakulam*): May I know the reason why the Committee was not given the option to elect its own President.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): The procedure there was for the members to elect at each meeting its own President. It was thought that a permanent President may be appointed so that he may be entrusted with the arrangements for the working of the Committee.

Mr. P. P. Devassy (*Trichur-South*): Cannot a permanent President be elected or nominated by the Committee?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Yes. It can be done.

307. **Mr. T. P. Poulose** (*Kanayannur*): Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether there are Presidents for Village Food Advisory Committees at Mulanthuruthi and Amballur in Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk;

(b) if so, who they are;

(c) how many meetings of those Committees were convened in the year 1119 and 1120 respectively?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*):

(a) Yes.

(b) Rev. L. John, Palakkat for Mulanthuruthi and
Mr. K. V. Itten, B.A., for Amballur.

(c) One meeting in each village was convened in 1119. No meeting was held in 1120.

HOARDING AND PROFITEERING PREVENTION

308. **Mr P Narayana Menon** (*Trippunittura*): Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) the number of persons employed in the "Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention work" and the monthly expenditure involved;

(b) how long have they been working;

(c) the number of prosecutions launched by them so far;

(d) the number of persons convicted?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*):

(a) 39 persons; Rs. 1,465—1—0

(b) A special staff was sanctioned on 29th May 1944 and it was subsequently strengthened on 3rd November 1944.

(c) 14 up to 16th January 1945.

(d) Nil

MR. V. CHANDRA SEKHARAN, CHIEF INSPECTING OFFICER—OBSTRUCTION TO GO THROUGH PALIAM ROAD IN CHENNAMANGALAM

309 **Mr. K. S. Panicker** (*Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram*):

താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക ഗവൺമെണ്ട് സദയം മറുപടി പറയുമോ.—

(എ) ഇൻറിപ്രോഫിറ്റീറിങ്ങ് ആഫീസർ മിസ്റ്റർ വി. ചന്ദ്രശേഖരൻ, ബി. എ. ബി. എൽ., ചേന്ദമംഗലത്തു് പാലിയം റോഡിലുള്ള ചില ഷാപ്പുകൾ പരിശോധിപ്പാൻ ചെന്നിരുന്ന അവസരത്തിൽ തീണ്ടൽ ജാതിക്കാരനാണ് അദ്ദേഹം എന്ന പറഞ്ഞു പ്രസ്തുത റോഡിൽക്കൂടി വഴി നടക്കുവാനോ ഷാപ്പുകൾ പരിശോധിക്കുവാനോ പാലിയവും സ്ഥല

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